

West Lafayette Wins Top America in Bloom Award



America in Bloom judges presented the top award to West Lafayette. Accepting at the October awards ceremony in Ohio were (from left) Tom Gall, Beverly Shaw and Lynn Layden.

West Lafayette landed the highest award possible at the October America in Bloom ceremony, beating four other communities in the 25,001-to-50,000 population category to achieve "best of the best."

Landscape, Environment, Heritage

The award recognizes our urban forestry, floral displays, landscaped areas, tidiness, environmental awareness, heritage conservation and community involvement.

West Lafayette also won the Environmental Awareness Award, competing against cities of all sizes. It was one of just eight special categories with separate awards, and it recognizes our CityBus transportation, recycling, sewage disposal and environmental stewardship.

Volunteer Efforts

"We're a community that presents an appealing look and considers environmental stewardship a priority," says Mayor John Dennis. "The West Lafayette America in Bloom Committee, under the leadership of volunteer Lynn Layden, energized neighbors and showcased our achievements. We should all feel proud."

Cities competing against West Lafayette were Michigan City, Ind.; Collierville, Tenn.; Norwich, Conn.; and Richmond, Ky. America in Bloom is a nonprofit group encouraging nationwide beautification, personal and community involvement and educational programs.

New Website, City Materials Need Your Photos

What's the best way to capture the essence of West Lafayette in photos? Ask our residents to send in snapshots that reflect how great life is here. With your permission, we'll use them on our new website and in other city materials.

Photo Contest

To show our appreciation, we'll be giving certificates that recognize the best shots in several categories. These will include locations such as the parks, in school, around City Hall, on the trails, at Purdue Research Park, made-in-West Lafayette items, family fun and others.

Photos must be taken in West Lafayette, high-resolution digital format in jpeg format and sent by email with our photo release form to westlafayettephoto@yahoo.com. Everyone in

the photo should be identified. Go to www.westlafayette.in.gov, and click on "Photo Contest." Deadline for submissions is January 15, 2009. Any photos we use will include a photo credit with your name.

New Website

We hope many of the photos submitted can be used in our new website, being developed by eGov Strategies LLC of Indianapolis, which has designed more than 100 government websites, including www.IndyGov.org.

Plans are to allow online payments for wastewater treatment bills and registration for Morton Community Center and Parks and Recreation Department events.



Ann Landgrebe and husband David won the October West Lafayette Beautification Award.



Bessie Ncube, August Beautification winner, has created a large corner garden.



Ready for a New Season, New Projects

by Mayor John Dennis

Making West Lafayette the best we can be means many ideas and even more discussions—and every resident is an important part of that. Sometimes out-of-the-box ideas end up being great

solutions to today's challenges. Other times, fine-tuning what we have makes the most sense.

Lindberg Road Bridge

Lindberg Road is a great example. We've exhausted the fine-tune fixes, and it's time to move on to a lasting solution. But before that bridge is built, we'll make careful, considered studies and choices. In this and every decision, we weigh fiscal prudence, environmental wisdom, community goals, citizen input and more.

Burtsfield Site

Another out-of-the-box idea is the collaborative approach we are taking with West Lafayette Community School Corp. The Burtsfield site is an example. The City of West Lafayette helps with demolition of the former school; in return, the city gets property at the intersection of Lindberg and Salisbury. That will save us money when we improve that intersection and work on controlling runoff at Happy Hollow. This cooperative spirit is a good thing.

Other Joint Projects

As for a new city/school administration building, which was recently discussed in an article in the Journal and Courier, please understand that my intent, and I'm sure the intent of superintendent Rocky Killion, is to generate discussion to determine feasibility, practicality and affordability, and to fully develop a process involving community input. That will definitely be needed before we consider anything. A new building is just one option of many for the Burtsfield site. The driving theme here is: if it is determined that it will not save taxpayers money, we will not move forward on this idea.

Anytime you have thoughts to share on our community, send them my way.

Our Winning Community

Speaking of community, we're a winning one in many ways, from America in Bloom to year round good living. Our 17.5 miles of trails make for wonderful winter walks. The Riverside Skating Center opens the day after Thanksgiving. And Morton Community Center has a great lineup of programs.

Head out to enjoy all West Lafayette has to offer!

City Staff Serve Leadership Posts

Street Commissioner David Downey has been elected president of the Indiana Association of Street Commissioners.

City Engineer David Buck is serving as vice president of the Indiana Association of City Engineers.

And Deputy Building Commissioner Jason Burks was elected Area 2 District Director, serving west central Indiana, of the Indiana Association of Building Officials.



David Downey



David Buck



Jason Burks

Snow Removal a Top Priority

Keeping traffic flowing and our city streets cleared of snow are always our winter goals.

Main Streets First

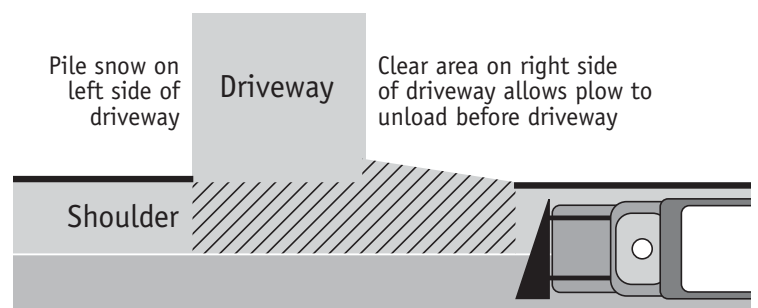
When the snow flies, we plow main streets first, then side streets after the snow stops, reports David Downey, street commissioner. Once all streets have a clear lane, we return to widen the path.

You can help us by:

- Moving parked cars off the street during a snowfall so our plows can move through
- Clearing snow from around your mailbox
- Shoveling sidewalk snow into your yard
- Shoveling driveway snow onto the left side of your lawn as you face your driveway (see diagram).

Shovel Within Six Hours

Reminder: West Lafayette city ordinances require that residents are responsible for clean sidewalks within six hours after daylight or after snow has stopped falling.





News from All Around Our City

Police Extend Office Hours, Offer Free Drug Test Kits.

The Records Department of the West Lafayette Police Department is now open extended hours, reports Police Chief Jason Dombkowski. The Department is now open until 7 p.m. Monday through Friday. Crash reports can also be accessed around-the-clock online at www.westlafayettepd.us.

Another online service: vouchers for free drug testing kits. "If parents suspect a child is using drugs, they can go to our website to request a free, anonymous test kit. The tests are shipped directly to the parents from the company, and we are not notified or involved," Dombkowski says. Go to www.westlafayettepd.us and click on the "Drug Test Kits"/TestMyTeen.com link beneath the police badge on the home page.

Lindberg Bridge Under Study. Work is underway to determine the best design for a Lindberg Road bridge over the Celery Bog marshland. American Structurepoint Inc. in Indianapolis is serving as design consultant, helping the county and city evaluate the challenges of the existing soil types and determine the type, length and size of the bridge to be built. How to maintain traffic flow—which is currently about 10,000 vehicles a day—during construction is also



Laura Wegener (left) shared the September Beautification prize with her neighbor and friend, Gerda Stout.



under consideration, reports City Engineer David Buck. Once construction begins, it will likely take about a year or more to complete.

Wastewater Treatment Utility Progressing.

Construction on plant upgrades is proceeding well, reports David Henderson, utility director. On the finished list: digester control building concrete, roof concrete, 60-foot steel domes on both digesters and installation of the truck scale that will weigh deliveries at the fats, oils and grease receiving station. "The project is well on its way to a final completion date in the spring of 2009," Henderson says.

Peck-Trachtman Park Dedicated. The two-acre Peck-Trachtman Park at 3335 Dubois St. was dedicated this fall, named to honor long-time Park Board members Garnet Peck and

Leon Trachtman, who have each served as volunteers for 27 years. The park has a playground, picnic tables, grill and shelter. New trees were planted this fall and more new trees will go in next spring, reports Joe Payne, Parks and Recreation Department head.

Four Beautification Winners. Bessie Ncube has made her Covington Street home a gardener's marvel in the three years she's lived there with her daughter Lisa, earning Ncube the August Beautification Award. One of her favorite plantings is the Shasta daisy from her native Zimbabwe.

Cherry Lane neighbors and garden friends Gerda Stout and Laura Wegener earned September Beautification Awards. Stout has lived in her home more than 50 years, enhancing it with trees, plants and her favorite, the night-blooming cereus. Wegener loves daffodils, tulips and shade trees.

Ann and David Landgrebe received the October award. They've lived on Western Drive for 45 years and now have more than 60 varieties of hostas, among other trees and plants.

Discover West Lafayette. West Lafayette is prominently featured in the new magazine, Discover Greater Lafayette, Indiana, published by Greater Lafayette Commerce. Used to recruit new businesses, industries and executives to our area, the magazine covers Purdue Research Park, Purdue University and other West Lafayette areas.



Work continues on the Wastewater Treatment Plant.



SAVE this
neighborhood listing



West Lafayette Neighborhood Associations

Amberleigh Village

Families of many cultures • Kalberer/Yeager area • 179 homes built 2001 on • Toddler playground, private pond, Cumberland Park and Farmers Market within walking distance, on bike path; planned community to ensure high quality of life for all residents

Activities: Spring yard sale, fall neighborhood picnic and other activities

Contact Michelle Scott • board@amberleighvillage.org, 463-9794, www.amberleighvillage.org

We're a family-oriented neighborhood that embraces our multicultural environment and strives to maintain a small town atmosphere.

Arbor Chase

New neighborhood • Kalberer/Soldiers Home area • 100 homes built 2006 on; more lots available • Neighborhood picnic and playground area, walking/jogging trails, a pond and a lake with a fountain, close to shopping

Activities: Association is planning neighborhood activities for the coming year

Contact Tim Shriner • tshriner@schprop.com, 742-0300, www.ArborChase.org (under development)

Our neighborhood is a mix of patio, executive and estate homes constructed by a variety of builders.

Avondale

Large yards, mature trees • Salisbury/Cumberland/Avondale area • 65 homes built in 1960s • Quiet, tucked away streets; great for children; near Cumberland and Lommel parks; walk to Farmers Market and Cumberland School

Activities: Annual Cumberland Avenue planting day; 4th of July breakfast, parade, games and picnic; hot chocolate party every February; annual yard sale.

Contact Patsy Hoyer • p_loves_s@hotmail.com, 497-0103

Families of all ages live in Avondale, and we're welcoming to newcomers.

Barberry Heights

Family friendly, diverse • Off Salisbury between Sagamore West and Cumberland • 525 homes built in 1970s and 1980s • Home to five-acre Lommel Park, easy access to trails, short walk to Cumberland Elementary and shopping

Activities: 4th of July Children's Parade, 10 a.m. from Lommel Park; neighborhood garage sale late August; neighborhood family play group

Contact Beth Will • beth@digitalarchivers-in.com, 497-1792, E-List: ritarud@purdue.edu

Barberry Heights offers a warm community spirit, large yards and hundreds of mature trees.

Blackbird Farms

Quiet slice of country • Off Lindberg Road • 173 two-story and patio homes built in 1990s • Home to Blackbird Pond, well-maintained common areas, surrounded by woods, golf course, Celery Bog and Lilly Nature Center; minutes from shopping and Klondike elementary and middle schools

Activities: May garden cleanup callout; September gathering

Contact Chuck Hintzman, hintzman@gmail.com, 497-1595

Our residents are professionals and retired people—young, middle-aged and elderly; many enjoy walking and jogging along our winding streets and sidewalks.

Get Connected through Your Neighborhood Association

Knowing the folks next door and down the street makes for a vibrant neighborhood connection. And that makes our city great—whether it's in friendly waves, neighborhood projects or social gatherings.

The City of West Lafayette encourages all residents to get involved in your neighborhood association by contacting the person listed. If your area doesn't yet have an association formed, consider starting one. For details, contact Allen "Buz" Grady, assistant director, Development Department, at 775-5160, agrady@westlafayette.in.gov.



Glenwood Heights

Child-friendly • Off Soldiers Home Road • 113 single- and two-story homes built in 1950s • A low-traffic neighborhood with many cul-de-sacs; an easy walk to Cumberland Elementary; close to shopping

Activities: Summer meeting being planned

Contact Sandy Shoemaker • skrl200@verizon.net, 463-1137 or Kathy Heckaman • 463-1321, E-List: Dan Noland, nolandd@gmail.com, www.glenwoodheights.net

Our street names—Magnolia, Dogwood, Myrtle, Willow—reflect our abundant landscaping and mature trees.

Happy Hollow

Lush landscape, views • Happy Hollow Road area • 123 homes built in 1950s, variety of mid-20th century styles, some overlooking Wabash River, others overlooking Happy Hollow Park • Home to Happy Hollow Park; close to Sagamore West and shopping

Activities: Fall picnic in Happy Hollow Park

Contact Felice Bray • felicebray@gmail.com, 463-7116

Many old-growth trees fill our neighborhood.

Hills and Dales

Abundant trees and wildlife • Near Purdue campus, family and community-oriented • 280 homes, most built from 1924 to 1943 • A neighborhood of hills, winding streets, lush landscaping and varied architecture; close to West Lafayette Junior/Senior High; listed on the National Registry of Historic Places

Activities: Easter egg hunt, Halloween party, annual picnic

Contact Ronda Walsh Schwab • president@hillsanddales.net, 497-1382, www.hillsanddales.net

Hills and Dales is in town, with huge trees and yards that attract rabbits, squirrels, chipmunks and deer.

Lauren Lakes

New neighborhood association forming

Contact Allen Grady • agrady@westlafayette.in.gov, 775-5166

New Chauncey

Historic village charm • North Chauncey area • 600 homes in a mix of architectural styles, built between 1860s and 1940s; neighborhood listed on the National Registry of Historic Places • Home to Centennial and Lincoln neighborhood parks, West Lafayette Public Library, Morton Community Center and Chauncey Village Shopping District; close to playgrounds and more parks; walking distance to West Lafayette Junior/Senior High School, Purdue University, restaurants and movie theaters

Activities: Neighborhood social gatherings, Purdue student meet-and-greet, Halloween parade and ongoing work to preserve the neighborhood's historic legacy

Contact Carl Griffin • info@newchauncey.org, 743-8087, www.newchauncey.org

Residents maintain daylily beds throughout the neighborhood, a way of extending a warm welcome to families and university students.

Northwestern Heights

Rich architecture, tree-canopied streets • Up the hill from Purdue • 200 homes in various styles, most built in 1950s and 1960s • Near golf course, pond, wetland preserve, trails

Activities: Annual garage sale in May; Labor Day block party and potluck; winter holiday wine and cheese party; children's summer and fall events; summer progressive dinner

Contact Peter and Jenny Hulen • hulenp@wabash.edu; jhulen@megabrand.com, email preferred over phone

Our residents are a great mix of families, singles, seniors, newlyweds and retirees who care about our community and each other.

Park Ridge

Quiet, convenient • Salisbury/Navajo area • 40 ranch, two-story and tri-level homes built in the 1960s on large lots • Close to shopping, restaurants and more

Contact Allen Grady • agrady@westlafayette.in.gov, 775-5166

A small, friendly neighborhood.

Plaza Park

Winding streets, mature trees, bike and pedestrian trails • Yeager/Cumberland area • 144 homes built 1960s to 1980s • Near Cumberland Park

Activities: Annual garage sale

Contact Sharon Helmerick • hlmrck@aol.com, 497-3260

We're home to many families and retired professors; convenient access to trails, a park, shopping and dining.

Prophet's Ridge

New homes, welcoming neighbors • Near 500 North • 99 homes built from 2004 on; room for 183 more • Easy access to I-65, short drive to Purdue University, close to golf courses

Activities: Annual Homeowners' Association Meeting in December; annual neighborhood garage sale in late spring

Contact Katie Sarver • prophetsridge@hotmail.com, 497-4249, www.prophetsridge.com

We are a fast-growing neighborhood of friendly folks.

University Farm

Expansive and fun • Cumberland/Salisbury/Soldiers Home Road area • 586 two-story homes built from 1980s forward • Home to University Farm and Dubois Street parks

Activities: Annual Easter egg hunt, garage sale, ice cream social in late August and holiday lighting contest

Contact Judith Wade • jwade0243@msn.com, 463-1006, www.ufna.net

We welcome new residents and enjoy meeting each other at neighborhood events throughout the year.

Wabash Shores

Established neighborhood with quiet cul-de-sacs, convenient to services, shopping • Knox/Navajo/Indian Trail/Huron area • 350 ranch bi-level and tri-level homes built in 1960s • Trail access to Happy Hollow Park

Activities: Spring gathering, summer block party

Contact Karen O'Farrell • jkofarrell@verizon.net, 463-3154

We love the convenience of our neighborhood, range of housing choices, quiet cul-de-sacs and easy links to the parks and trail system that enhance our neighborliness.

Plan Some Fun in West Lafayette

Sagamore West Farmers Market

Wednesday, November 26, 3 to 6:30 p.m.
Thanksgiving Fare
Cumberland Park

Riverside Skating Center

Friday, November 28, Opening Day
Hours for the season are posted at parks.city.west-lafayette.in.us/riverside.asp

Christmas Parade

Sunday, December 7
Watch from Tapawingo Drive, where Snowbear will sell hot chocolate and pre-parade activities will include a bonfire, storytellers, carolers and ice skating with elves. Free parking will be available at the Wabash Landing Parking Garage from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., and restrooms at Riverside Skating Center will be open to the public. Area businesses will provide dozens of demonstrations and specials that afternoon.



The parade departs Ninth and Main in Lafayette at 2 p.m. and is expected to reach Tapawingo Drive about 2:45 p.m. It ends at Levee Plaza.

Blood Drive, City Hall

Tuesday, December 16
The Blood Mobile will be accepting blood donations at City Hall from 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.



The Blood Mobile, which visited Sagamore West Farmers Market this summer, will be at West Lafayette City Hall on December 16.

Set your Thanksgiving table with fare from the
final Sagamore West Farmers Market of the season,
Wednesday, November 26, 3 to 6:30 p.m., Cumberland Park



John Dennis • Mayor
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mayor@westlafayette.in.gov
Judy Rhodes • Clerk-Treasurer
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